President: Arising out of what took place yesterday, I have made some enquiries from a particular doctor who was referred to in the course of this debate. Here is what he says. First he says about himself and then speaks about his ancestors thus: "My father was born in Karamanai and my great grand-father, a well-known scholar in *Nyaya*, *Vyakarana* and *Mimamsa*, served throughout his life in the Palace in Trivandrum. There is an existent work of his on *Tulabara*. My brother was appointed by the previous Dewan in the Public Works Department six years before my appointment on the basis that he was a Travancorean." That is, so far as the Travancorean claims are concerned. With regard to the other matter, what he says is: "Regarding the case which he has mentioned, Mr. N. Raman Pillai, aged fifty, clerk, Credit Bank, in-patient No. 5028, was admitted under me in a collapsing condition on 11-4-18 in the General Hospital. I examined him and found his heart was failing and he had also high blood pressure. I asked the man who was near him whether he was the patient's relative and he told me that he was his neighbour. I told him that I would like to see the relations of the patient. I got the patient to be put in a corner in the general ward and supplied a screen from the room occupied by the staff. The relations came and I explained to them that there was not much that could be done. But I would try my best and see whether there was not a ray of hope. I suggested to them that removal to a single ward might give him more rest as he would not be disturbed by other patients. When they offered to buy any special medicines I told them that they would get Lupot tablets and Coramine Ampules also. I supplied to the visitors two stools from the room belonging to the staff of the hospital and requested them not to disturb the patient. In the evening when I came they told me the drugs were not available and also that a single room was not available. In the night, at 9 o'clock, I visited the patient and gave him Lupot and Coramine which I got from another patient of mine. He had some rest. He was removed to one of the single rooms the next noon and that evening he was quiet and showed improvement. As usual the next night also I saw him and gave him Lupot and Coramine. The relations expressed their immense gratitude to what all I had been doing during that visit. I replied that I was doing just as I would do for every serious case under my care. I had instructed the Nurse that she should inform me if the patient got bad at any time. I had a call at 12-30 in the night and I saw the patient and found him collapsed. I told his relations it was a matter of an hour and gave Coramine to ease the patient. The patient expired at 1 a. m.

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[President.]

Nobody asked for anything. If the honourable member means something to rest it is done by keeping up some pillows in front of the patient on the bed. In General Hospital the furniture of one ward room is not removed indiscriminately to another place. But the medical officers do change the furniture under special conditions. I had supplied the screen and the stools to this patient when he was in the general ward from the room occupied by the staff as the case was a serious one." That is what he has to explain.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.—(*contd.*)

DEMAND XIII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.—(*contd.*)

Mr. A. Easwara Pillai (*Kottarakara and Pattanapuram* cum *Sheucotta*) : Sir, The honourable member, the Conservator of Forests, the other day on the floor of the House, complained that the people are not coming forward to take up lands, assigned for cultivation. When people are actually starving and when they are crying out for more lands in fact when they are going out of the country in search of lands for cultivation, the statement of the Conservator requires serious consideration. To my mind, the reason for this apathy on the part of the people is quite clear. Primarly the fault lies in the selection of the lands. The lands selected are the swamps and the grassy areas. The swamps are very fertile lands which are capable of splendid yields. They may require many years of labour and expenditure for converting these lands for profitable cultivation. I am sure that they are unfit for immediate, profitable cultivation. Grassy areas are not suited for paddy growing. It is an axiomatic truth that where grass grows abundantly, no paddy will grow. It may be suitable for tapioca cultivation. But when sufficient lands are available in or around their native villages, who will choose to go to the interior forest for tapioca cultivation, risking their lives against wild beasts and malaria?

Secondly the inducements offered to the ryots are not at all satisfactory. The period of 3 years given for cultivation of these lands, is not sufficient. The conditions imposed upon them are very stringent. Plantation under the taungya system is insisted. That is certainly very unhappy. The whole proposal was considered by the Economic Development Board, consisting of members who know the practical side of the matters, rejected it unanimously. On the other hand, they had suggested that if the Government wished to make the food growing scheme a success, they must select other suitable lands, such as abutting forests, etta growing areas etc., and assign them to ryots on more favourable terms. But the Government did not hold their advice. Under

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